[16th March 1923

9. The provisions of article 158, Civil Service Regulations, may be applied to those subordinates who may so desire.

10. When initial pay has been fixed according to the foregoing rules, the individual concerned will be considered to have entered the appropriate stage of the time-scale on 1st March 1921 and will be eligible for the next increment, if any, in the time-scale only after the expiry of the full period of stay provided for in the stage concerned.

II

COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL.

The SECRETARY laid on the table the proceedings of the 29th meeting for 1922–23 of the Standing Finance Committee of the Madras Legislative Council held on Saturday, the 10th March 1923.*

III

MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR 1923–24.

DEMAND XI—CIVIL JUSTICE.

MOTION NO. 120—*cont.*

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, I propose to take this opportunity, in view of the tabling of three or four motions having the same objects in view, to place before this Council what exactly has been done in the matter referred to in the debate and what is proposed to be done. For the information of hon. Members of this House, I may give an analysis—I trust they will bear with me if I take some more time than usual—of the courts which have been proposed to be abolished by the Government, or as to whose abolition there have been proposals from other sources. I shall next give a table of the localities where new temporary courts are considered necessary or desirable ; and thirdly, I shall indicate to the Council what is the programme that may have to be followed in order to follow out the ideas of the hon. Members of this Council.

" I may mention *in limine* that, as is perhaps known to most of the Members of this Council, there was a very weighty committee appointed for the purpose of discussing the question of civil arrears. That committee was composed of my predecessor in office, Sir Francis Oldfield and Mr. Krishnaswami Rao, and later on Mr. Viswanatha Sastri. They examined the whole question with regard to the pendency of cases in all the localities of this presidency. They made the following recommendation—the papers will shortly be placed on the Editors' table, viz., that there should be an immediate increase in the number of Sub-Judges and District Munsifs temporarily for one year. I would ask hon. Members to mark those words, that this expedient of having temporary Subordinate Judges and District Munsifs is only to be for the space of one year and deliberately and avowedly with the object of reducing the present pendency ; and efforts will be made, whether by way of redistribution of jurisdictions or of transfers of cases to see that these places are served by as many officials as will best serve the objects that hon. Members have all in view. The other recommendation that they made was that an immediate examination should be undertaken, court by court, of the normal file and the

* *Vide* Appendix B at page 2507 *infra.*